



Seminole County
Public Safety



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Volume 1 Issue 9

<http://www.seminolepublicsafety.org>

December 13, 2002



Happy Holidays From the Director



The past year has been a whirlwind of accomplishments and firsts. Our organization grew by one third with the merger of the Altamonte Springs Fire Rescue Service. We also began operations with a new fire dispatch CAD. Our Petroleum Storage Tanks Clean-up Program relocated to new facilities at Reflections – Hidden Lake. This Clean-up Program is so successful that the State has asked we monitor and provide technical assistance to Lake County. That says a lot.

Another first for our organization was the promotion of Assistant Chief Leeanna Raw, who is setting new standards for women in the fire service. Chief Raw's dedication and professionalism has, once again, put Seminole County in the forefront. Another accomplishment was the establishment of the Division Chief position to provide shift oversight.

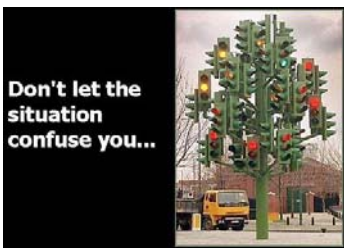
The MQA Program was placed in the Emergency Communications/E-911 Division, due to its countywide function. Oviedo joined the First Response System, thereby solidifying a true countywide communications function. Animal Services introduced new shelter management software, thereby streamlining their operations. Probably the most noticeable change of all is the new color scheme of our fire equipment. One word sums it up – RED! Nice, isn't it?

With the holidays and the New Year coming, I want to wish each and everyone a very wonderful holiday season.

You truly make us what we are today and you are the reflection that is seen by those that look at us.

I am honored to have been part of our DPS family for the past year, and look forward to the future with you.

Kenneth M. Roberts, Director



Holiday traffic will be very heavy this year, and will only continue to grow each year. Please be sure to **use extra caution** when responding to emergency calls and whenever you are driving the units. Have patience with other drivers, despite the large sized vehicles we drive, others may not see you so well or hear you.

When traveling between stations or training allow extra driving time and of course obey all the traffic laws and exercise safety at all times. Be aware of the dreaded, "Holiday Shopper", sometimes they are more focused on what they need to purchase, rather than driving safely.

Have a happy and safe holiday season!



Emergency Communications Update:

Recently, a task force was created to review the processes in the Communication Center. Their intention is to streamline and enhance where they can, how everything is accomplished.

The Traffic Engineering project is progressing very well. All of the components have been delivered and they are working feverously to complete the project by the end of this month.

This project will be pushing the envelope of technology in a 911 center. It has 12 - 50 inch seamless screens, where we will be able to view virtually any accident on Interstate 4 and adjust

the response as needed.

We are continuing our efforts to purchase a new telephone system that will comply with current Federal 911 Wireless guidelines.



A heartfelt thanks to all of the folks in our Communication Center for their continued dedication and determination to work through these difficult upgrades, while maintaining a superior 911 response system.



Well, whatda you know!

Here are some words from all over that mean something else; how many can you figure out?

Straphanger

Poppy wit a smear

Chalk Lit

Ball Mer

Norker

Bah Hobba

Hee Yah

Whale

Sprog

Dunny

Mollydocket

Weejans

Mud Rockets

Tick a rat

Askeered

Shawlet

Raffel

Far Tar

Mukluks

Thote

OK, now have fun trying to figure these out. If you want the answers, you will have to email me! Good luck!

Medical Quality Assurance

In February, training will begin for selected individuals on how to use the latest addition to EMS training tools, "Sim Man".

The training will be February 17, 18 and 19 from 0830—1030 each day. As the time draws closer, the MQA office will finalize the information for the instructors involved.

We are very fortunate to have such a device; one that is currently being used

in hospitals, nursing schools, EMS agencies and Colleges throughout the nation.

Although many of the functions are preprogrammed and can be adjusted by a computer, ACLS protocol training will never be the same old stuff again!

"Sim Man" can breathe, have varying degrees of pulse, verbalize information and even have spasms, as needed!

Another new item being talked about is

obtaining software where the Communications Center can see hospital beds and ED status and alert transporting units of potential delays.

**If you learn it, use it;
If you use it, prefect it;
If you perfect it, pass it on.**

Congratulations to....

There are more "Congrats" to mention, this time from our Emergency Communications Center.

Lisa Townsend and *Lisa Maldonado* have both been promoted to Team Leader for their respective shifts. They had to endure a rigorous promotional process that tested them in many areas of supervision and management skills.

Congratulations is also extended to Susan Hughes, for recently completing the much talked about, "Effective Supervisory Management" course the county provides to supervisors and managers. Susan is not the first from

the Emergency Communication Center to attend this course. Lisa Maldonado, Shelly Brubaker and Bob Hodges have also attended.

This course is highly recommended to any supervisor or future supervisor. The innovative manual and CD's are very thought provoking and will, without a doubt, open anyone's eyes to new techniques and directions of management.

A hearty welcome is extended to Marty Joyce, Erin McBride and Bradley Hines who have joined our teams recently, making us a fully staffed center. This,

is an amazing feat as there is a drastic shortage of 911 professionals nationwide.

Sherrie Russel, from SCFD Station 13, was recently released from her preceptorship and is now working as a Paramedic on her own. Good job, Sherrie!



EMS Protocols

Angel Nater

Dr. Husty, our Medical Director, has just finished videotaping valuable information regarding the changes and revised parameters of the protocols. Sufficient copies are being produced now, so that every Fire Station will have a copy to review. As a reminder, this update will be taking effect on January 1, 2003.

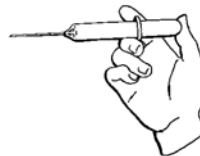
The protocols will also be available very shortly on the web, in PDF format.

This will make it easier for everyone to review or refer to them while in station.

The Fire Chiefs have approved training in Small Pox vaccinations procedures for our Paramedics. This is in response to the State EMS Medical Director's recommendation, in the event of an

epidemic, we would then be able to support our local Health Department to vaccinate the population. This training will begin in late January or early February.

I wish all you, best wishes and happy holidays to all of you and your loved ones.



What's coming for SCFD!

The most visual change is the color of our Fire Engines—**RED!** Think Chief Kinley is happy?

The new report writing software from Alpine, although time consuming to input the data, should be operational soon.

Through a committee of SCFD employees, there will some new uniforms that will be more comfortable and even more professional than before.

A "Peak Load" rescue will be coming into service in the near future, which will help during our busy times of the day.

New woods trucks, improved map books, replacement rescues and Hepatitis "A" shots are just some of the items or processes in the works.

SCFD is one of the more progressive and innovative Fire Service Agencies in Central Florida.

A special thank you to everyone that participated in the many committees, projects and events, over this past year to make Seminole County Fire Department the shining example that it is.

Information provided from the SCFD yearly update pamphlet, that is produced by SCFD Fire Chief, Terry Schenk.

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It's a new year! So, what is in store for you this coming year? What direction will you be going in or be led to? Most of these answers are up to you. Will you try to improve yourself through education? Will you pass on what you have learned in classes or life experiences to help someone else improve. Keep in mind, not everything has to relate or center around your professional career. Many of the tools or training we are provided can be instrumental in our personal lives.

Everyone of us can make a difference to someone else. It is wonderful if we know it, however, if we don't know, we should be satisfied that somewhere, sometime, somehow, we did help someone.

Make a commitment to yourself, that you will be the one responsible for assisting one of your co-worker's or family members excel in some endeavor.

Remember, helping someone grow will only make them stronger and help you grow as well.



Seminole County Animal Services.....Elaine Richarde

Here are some helpful winter care tips that will be useful to everyone in caring for your animals and special risks to pets.

Give your pet a safer, healthier cold weather season by following these tips.

1. Keep indoor pets in a dry, warm area free of drafts. Elevate your pet's bed off the floor.
2. Provide outdoor dogs or cats with a dry, insulated pet house or shelter out of the wind. Staying warm demands extra calories, so feed your pet accordingly when temperatures drop. Bring your pet inside if the wind chill or other weather conditions become severe. Remember, if it is too cold for you, it will be the same for them.
3. Remove ice and caked on mud from your pet's paws and coat at once. Contact your veterinarian immediately if you suspect your pet has frostbite. Frostbitten skin may turn reddish, white or gray, and it may be scaly or sloughing.
4. Cats and kittens often nap on car engines, because of the warmth.



Knock on the hood or honk the horn; then wait a few minutes before starting the car.

5. Pets like the smell and taste of anti-freeze, but even a small amount can kill them. Take the time to thoroughly clean up spills at once and



dispose safely and properly. Tightly close containers and store them where pets cannot get to them.

6. Holiday paraphernalia can hurt pets. Cover or tack down electrical cords. Keep tinsel, glass or lacquered pastry ornaments out of reach. Please read the warnings on items such as "spray-on snow." Never place any ribbon around a pet's neck or allow it to play with plastic or foil wrappings or six-pack beverage holders.

7. It is important to keep your pet on their regular diet. Holiday treats, such as chocolate, chicken or turkey bones can be very harmful or toxic to them.

8. Many plants – including Christmas Rose, Holly, Mistletoe, Philodendron and Dieffenbachia – are very toxic to pets. Keep them out of your pet's reach.

Always have fresh, clean water available.



All of us from Animal Services wishes you and your pets a happy and healthy holiday season.



Our New Look



Red
is
in
!



A special thanks to James Falletti, from Station 23 for the pictures of Engine 23.



On The Job

Various pictures of professionals doing what they do best.





Technology in the Fire Service

A look of what technology can do for the fire service. These are pictures of the Haywood fire in Colorado earlier this year. The area shown is 20 miles by 10.5 miles.

Jefferson County also used a Public Telephone Notification system to alert over 3000 citizens to prepare or to actually evacuate the area. Seminole County has a similar type system in place now.

Photo Credits to

<http://www.spaceimaging.com>



This just in.....

Public Safety Training Consultants was here this week providing exceptional training to 911 Telecommunicators on the latest information for Weapons of Mass Destruction and an innovative Customer Service class.

Attendees came from all of the State of Florida to hear, instructor Kevin Willet, is a nationally recognized speaker. We thank Kevin very much for all of his insight and the great tools to use where ever we make work in the Public Safety field.

We hope to have him return soon!

To see what else Public Safety Training Consultants has to offer an Emergency Communications Center, check out their website at: <http://www.pstc911.com/>



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